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On board: Wheelchair athlete and television actor Jack Binstead has backed the campaign Deadlinepix KT88970

GIVE US A LIFT

Station inaccessible to disabled people, say campaigners

REPORTER
JON SHARMAN
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People with disabilities are being let down by an unacceptable lack of accessibility at Chessington North train station, campaigners and politicans have said.

Wheelchairs-users are forced to travel to another station while other passengers with reduced mobility must cope with steep stairs – the only way up to Chessington North's two platforms.

Former wheelchair athlete and Bad Education actor Jack Binstead, 18, who regularly commutes into London, lives close to the station in Bridge Road, but has to ride the bus to Surbiton station instead. He wants Network Rail and South West Trains (SWT) to put this right.

He said: "[People who use wheelchairs] don't use trains a lot, but there are people who do and it is them who are being let down.

"It is elderly people with sticks and walking frames, parents with buggies. A single mum is going to struggle carrying that up the stairs by herself. It is essential that a lift is put into the station."

MP Edward Davey said: "I will strongly back this latest campaign and raise it with South West Trains' managers direct – it is vital we ensure everyone can use our trains whether it is the disabled, the elderly with mobility problems or parents with pushchairs."

Conservative parliamentary candidate James Berry said: "An upgrade is long overdue. It is not acceptable that anyone living south of the A3 has to get the number 71 up to Surbiton to use an accessible station."

Earlier this year SWT and Network Rail came under fire after their spokesman suggested disabled passengers travel to "nearby" Surbiton, New Malden or Worcester Park stations if they could not access Chessington South.

A spokesman from the partnership said this week: "Most of the rail network was built many generations ago when the needs of passengers with reduced mobility were regrettably not taken into account.

"However, we are working hard to put that right and more than three-quarters of our passengers now travel via fully accessible stations.

"Those using Chessington North station who are unable to access the platforms are currently offered a free taxi service to the nearest fully accessible station. This is advertised on our website and in literature at our stations."

The operator hopes to access Department for Transport funding for improvements, he said.

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PD JAMES: One of the happiest times in the novelist's life was spent in Kingston, the place where she began her literary career. MOLLY O'SHEA looks into her story.

A happy house

When the crime novelist PD James died last month, aged 94, peers including Ruth Rendell, Patricia Cornwell and Ian Rankin were quick to pay tribute to one of the country's finest writers of detective fiction.

The plaudits were not unmerited.

Over a 50-year career, James built a formidable literary canon, and introduced the world to celebrated gentleman police detective Adam Dalgliesh.

She was made a life peer in the House of Lords, a governor of the BBC, and inducted into the International Crime Writing Hall of Fame.

And the origins of all this can be traced back to Kingston.

For it was while living in the town – at 127 Richmond Park Road – that James saw the publication of her 1962 debut novel, Cover Her Face, the first of 14 books starring Detective Chief Inspector Dalgliesh.

She had moved into the house the previous year, with her husband Connor and their two daughters, Jane and Clare.

As James recalled in her 1999 memoir, A Time To Be In Earnest, the family had wanted to move to Richmond, but could not afford it.

She wrote: "I thought it would be pleasant to live in Richmond, but taking a day off to reconnoitre, I was told by all the house agents I visited that even a small house or flat in this desirable borough couldn't be purchased for under £4,000.



"So, on their advice I took the bus to Kingston and there I found a small Victorian cottage in Richmond Park Road for just over half that sum.

"It's almost unbelievable now to think that a house could be bought so cheaply."

It was in this house that James wrote her second novel, A Mind To Murder.

It was also, as noted by June Sampson, the features editor of our sister newspaper the Surrey Comet, in 2008: "From here that one of her daughters got married; and it was here, in 1964, that her husband, whom she loved devotedly, died at the age of 44."

Connor had been a doctor serving with the Royal Army Medical Corps in India during World War II, but developed depression and spent his final years in and out of psychiatric hospitals.

Despite this, James' time in Kingston was "one of the happiest in her marriage", according to George Rome Innes, art historian and a secretary for the Kingston Society.

Mr Rome Innes bought the home from James herself in 1966, and still lives there today. He and his wife remained friends with the writer after she downsized to a flat in Surbiton.

They only lost touch when James moved to Ireland, which Innes said may have been due to a burglary "as well as for tax purposes".

Mr Rome Innes said: "She was a charming, happy, kind lady. She was unknown then. She wrote her first books here.

"She said these years were the happiest years. She loved living so close to the park. Up until that time she had lived with her in-laws, so this was probably a nice peaceful place to live."

James' presence lives on in the house. Scrawled on plywood beneath the stairs are the names, addresses and phone numbers of important contacts – including her doctor, her gas company and the Bentall Centre.

She also left a few other mementos.

"She gave us some furniture in the house, which she couldn't take with her to her new flat," said Mr Rome Innes. "And we're still using her omelette pan."

An ornate wardrobe is also still in use, he said.

James never forgot Kingston, returning in 1993 to officially re-open the newly-refurbished Kingston library.

Neither did she forget the owners of her former home.

In 2011, Mr Innes' daughter went to a book signing for James' latest – and ultimately final – book, Death Comes to Pemberley.

Mr Rome Innes said: "My daughter told her she grew up in the house, and of course she remembered us. She signed a copy of the book for my wife and I."



Clockwise from left: PD James at the time of the publication of her first novel; at Kingston library with executive head of culture Scott Herbertson; her home in Richmond Park Road; George Rome Innes, inset



MBC 1905 Molesey Boat Club

Molesey Boat Club is one of the UK's leading rowing clubs and is a high performance centre supported by GB Rowing. The Club has approximately 400 members and annual income approaching £400,000. 8 Club members represented the UK at the London Olympics and other members compete at all levels.

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TREE PEE: A man who urinated on a Kingston town centre Christmas tree was told to leave the borough for 24 hours. Kingston police's Operation Equinox gave the 6ft man in his 20s his marching orders after catching him in on the act by the Market Place on November 27.

ATTACKER JAILED: A homeless man who attacked a woman in an unprovoked attack in front of a child has been jailed for 18 weeks. John Dodson, 33, assaulted Jonie Flaherty in Eden Street, Kingston on November 11. He pleaded guilty to causing actual bodily harm at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court on Thursday, November 27. He was also ordered to pay £100 in compensation his victim.

POLICE RAID: A suspected brothel in Kingston was raided by police. Officers stormed a house in Manorgate Road at 3am on Friday, November 21. They found two women offering sexual services to paying visitors. A 28-year-old Nigerian woman, who had overstayed her visa, was arrested by officers on behalf of the Home Office. No action was taken against the second woman.

HOMES APPROVED: A revised scheme to build 315 new homes on Kingston's former gas holders site has been approved. Kingston Council has waved through proposals by developers Berkley First for a nine, seven and six-storey residential building with additional community, education or commercial space.

FAULTY FIRE ALARM: About 100 Tolworth children were told to stay at home, due to a faulty fire alarm at their school. Parents at Knollmead Primary School were texted last Thursday morning asking them not to bring their children to school due to "unforeseen circumstances".

PICKING UP POPPIES: Volunteer police cadets from Kingston helped pick up hundreds of ceramic poppies when they helped dismantle the Remembrance installation at the Tower of London. The group helped clear the World War I commemorative display, Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red, at the end of November. Cadet leader Hayley Parkes said: "The whole group felt truly honoured to have been given this unique opportunity."



Raid: Police at the Cambridge Road Pool Bar speak to a gambler

Chips down for club as police raid for licence

CHIEF REPORTER
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Gamblers were left bemused when police officers stormed a "casino-style" poker club in Kingston last week.

Officers turned up unannounced at the Pool Bar in Cambridge Road in Kingston on Tuesday, December 2, following reports of illegal gambling in the premises.

The bar, which runs as a members club for six days a week near the Cambridge Road estate, had four tables in play with chips stacked up for up to a £3,000 jackpot on the night.

The club, inside a spacious room with gaming machines, has a premises certificate for some gambling, but it must not be its main activity.

Sergeant Eddie Armstrong, from Kingston police, said: "There are no casino licences in Kingston. For them to do what they are doing they would need a casino-style certificate.

"We are working with Kingston's licensing team to examine evidence of an illegal poker club running out of the Pool Bar with a view of revoking its certificate or bringing a prosecution."

Players had each paid £45 to play on the night, with dealer bonuses that should not have been allowed also on the cards.

One gamer, who did not want to be named, said she enjoyed coming to the poker tournaments at the bar and had found out about the club through word-of-mouth.

Pool tables at the pool bar also looked as if they had not been used for some time.

Clive Noblett, regional compliance manager from the Gambling Commission, said: "It is unregulated gaming. Kingston residents probably do not want to travel out to central London so they can enjoy a game of poker, but this is an unsafe environment for them."

Officers found dealers, bar staff and the receptionist had all been paid cash-in-hand on the night.

No arrests were made, but Kingston police are continuing investigations.

Santa scrubs up very well

Father Christmas in the bathroom was just one of the reveals of the Mill Street life-sized advent calendar last week.

It is the third year running neighbours in the Kingston street have chosen to decorate a window in festive spirit before a grand unveiling each day.

Last year a red London bus, snowmen and even Margaret Thatcher featured in the calendar running up to Christmas.

Mill Street residents will gather at Stanley Picker Gallery to watch the gallery do its own unveiling in similar style after being inspired by the group on December 17.



Ho, ho, ho: The Mill Street advent washroom

Urination and attack in A&E

A homeless man drunkenly urinated in the middle of Kingston Hospital's A&E department before assaulting an ambulance worker.

Police officers took Sebastian Januchowski, 30, to hospital after they found him drunk and unconscious in Eden Street on Friday, November 21, at 11pm.

But he began shouting, urinating and then twisted the arm of a London Ambulance worker before police were recalled.

He admitted common assault at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court on Monday, November 24.

He will be sentenced on February 24 next year.

Chief Inspector Gary Taylor, from Kingston Police, said: "Assaults of this nature are completely inexcusable and officers at Kingston police station will always do everything within their power to bring offenders to justice."

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IN COURT: Belts and sticks used in street brawl outside town pub, jury hears

‘Sexual comment sparked fight’

REPORTER
RACHAEL BURFORD
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A woman was accused of encouraging a brawl in Kingston where men lashed out at each other with belts and sticks after a sexual comment was made, a court heard.

The fight broke out outside the Kings Tun pub in Clarence Street on April 15.

Natalia Connelly, 35, of East Road, Kingston, and her brothers Craig Jones, 25, and Scott Mills-Jones, 27, both of Chelsea Close, Hampton Hill, Jason Mayo, 29, of Fielding Avenue, Twickenham, and Jerome Crooks, 23, of Thornton Heath, all appeared at Kingston Crown Court charged with affray this week.

Miss Connelly, her brothers and Mr Mayo got involved in the dispute after a group of three men, including Jerome Crooks, 23, made a sexual comment to Miss Connelly, the court heard.

The comment was made outside a Turkish restaurant in Castle Street, the jury heard.

Miss Connelly told the court she laughed at the original comment, but the situation quickly escalated after she was hit with a belt while trying to break up the fight between her brother Scott and the three other men.

She said: “I felt something like a belt hit my back when I was trying to break up the fight. I couldn’t tell who hit me. My brother Scott took my belt without my consent.”

The fight then moved up the road to the Kings Tun pub, the court heard.

The jury was shown CCTV footage of Miss Connelly appearing to smile and kissing a bleeding Mr Mayo in the aftermath of the fight.

Prosecutor Martin Hooper suggested Miss Connelly had enjoyed the excitement of the clash, asking: “Your reaction to Mr Mayo, was that a bit of celebratory behaviour?”

Miss Connelly admitted she had been hysterical during the fight, but denied encouraging the violence.

She told the court: “I was just screaming out at them to stop throughout the entire thing. I could not control them. I was laughing afterwards because I was trying to diffuse the situation.”

The trial continues.



Crime scene: Police in the town centre following the fight

Flasher laughed as he exposed himself on station platform

Police are hunting a flasher who laughed while exposing himself to a woman at New Malden station.

The man was said to be acting strangely on the platform when the woman’s train pulled into the station on October 8 shortly before 9pm.

He then exposed himself while laughing at the woman when her carriage pulled up alongside him.

Detective Constable Andrew Parkinson, from British Transport Police, said: “A woman on a train, which had just pulled into the station, noticed a man, who appeared to be drunk, behaving oddly on the platform. As her carriage pulled alongside the man, he exposed himself and performed an indecent act while laughing at the woman. He then left the station.”

CCTV footage of a man the police want to speak to in connection with the incident has been released.

D Con Parkinson said: “I am confident the man in the image we are releasing today has key information about this incident. If you recognise him, please contact BTP.”

Anyone with information is asked to contact the British Transport Police on 0800 405040, or text 61016, quoting reference SSUB/B13 of 04/12/2014. Alternatively call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.



CCTV: The man police want to talk to about the incident

FLAT FIRE: A man was rescued from a fire in Surbiton last Friday. Fire crews were called to a flat above Alfriston Day Centre in Berrylands Road, at 2.30pm. Firefighters from Kingston wore breathing apparatus and saved the man from the second-floor flat. He was taken to hospital and was treated for smoke inhalation.

NO PURCHASE: Kingston Council will not use compulsory purchase powers to take control of the Tolworth Tesco site. Council officers said compulsory purchase would be “inappropriate” because the authority had no scheme of its own, and there was a “real possibility” of working with Tesco on its housing-only plans.

YOUR VOTE: New Malden residents are preparing to vote in next week’s St James ward byelection. The byelection was called following the death of former Conservative leader Howard Jones in October. It will take place on Thursday, December 18. For details visit **kingston.gov.uk** or call 020 8547 5026.

STEVI SINGS: X Factor contestant Stevi Ritchie sang at McClusky’s last weekend. The singer – booted off the show three weeks ago – was at the Thames Street venue on Saturday, December 6 for a live performance followed by a meet and greet.

REFUGEE HELP: Council leader Councillor Kevin Davis said he has stepped up a campaign to house 50 Syrian refugees in the borough by lobbying fellow London council leaders to do the same. The campaign, led by Citizens UK, hopes to persuade the Government to raise its cap on refugee numbers to 1,500 – though Coun Davis said just 90 people have been admitted to the UK so far.



Residents 'left in the dark' on home plans

REPORTER
RACHAEL BURFORD
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Plans for a multi-million pound re-development of New Malden centre went on show at the weekend with many residents complaining they had not been given enough notice.

More than 250 residents attended the two-day consultation on December 5 and 6 at the Malden Centre, where Mar City Homes showcased their plans for a 110 "modular" home development between the station and Alric Avenue.

An artist's impression of the plans released by the company shows a new high-rise building with rooftop gardens across the train bridge from the CI and Apex towers.

Doctor Liz Meerabeau, of Alric Avenue, was dismayed that she had not received any information about the exhibition or the plans.

She said: "We never heard anything, it's disgraceful.

"Parking would definitely be a problem if these homes went up, and the train system would need to be improved."

Lynne Finnerty, a former New Malden councillor, said: "Despite the architect apparently being a New Malden resident, the representatives I spoke with had no knowledge of the history attached to the shops.

"They weren't aware that one property earmarked for demolition includes the building where Malden's first cinema was housed.

"I agree it is a rather neglected parade, but no attempt has been made to retain even part of the facade. I'm not convinced that modular buildings will blend with New Malden's character."

Mar City claim modular homes can be constructed three times quicker than the average house because they are already part constructed and then jigsawed together at the site.

Liz Wilkes, a senior architect on the project, said: "If it was approved the whole project would take about 18 months I think because of the quick way the homes can be put together."

Ward Councillor Terry Paton said: "I think it's important we encourage people to look at the plans. I know residents are dubious about developments after the Cocks Crescent debacle, but it's so important people get involved."



Jigsaw: Proposals for the re-development of the centre of New Malden

Man with gun

Armed police swarmed a north Kingston road after getting reports of a man with a gun.

Police attended Latchmere Road and paramedics were also on standby near a primary school on Thursday, December 4.

Officers later arrested a man in nearby Durlston Road.

A witness said: "The police appeared to call to someone inside the house. A heavily built man came out with a shaved head, who was handcuffed and led away although I didn't see that."

Adi had tweeted: "What the heck is going on in #kingston? Latchmere Rd area. About 7 police vehicles, NHS rapid response +ambo, roads closed??"

Helena Cole had tweeted: "What is happening in Latchmere Rd as loads of police with guns – looks very scary – worried about my son coming home from school."

A police spokesman said: "Officers attended an address in Durlston Road following reports of a man with a firearm.

"Borough officers supported specialist firearm officers but there were no arrests.

"A male attended hospital voluntarily."

It is believed the firearm was a fake and no other firearm was recovered.

A spokeswoman from Latchmere School said the school had not been alerted about the gun scare, which had closed the road off to the public for just over an hour.

Back on the real ale trail

It has changed hands a number of times in the past few years, but the latest incarnation of the Antelope in Surbiton appears to be here to stay.

Landlords James Morgan and Richard Craig have teamed up with owners Greene King to open a microbrewery in the Maple Road pub's garden – lending brewing pedigree to the real-ale venue whose walls are now covered with niche beer mats.

Mr Morgan said the five-barrel Big Smoke Brew Co. installation gets "a lot of interest" from punters, brewing up four different beers; a bitter, a milk stout, a pale ale and a porter.





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Newsagent employee assaulted 11-year-old

Worker admits child sex acts

CHIEF REPORTER
NAZIA DEWJI
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A Surbiton newsagent's licence was suspended after an illegal employee admitted sexually assaulting a child inside the shop.

Ajay Sahye, 42, of Ewell Road, Surbiton, admitted two counts of sexual assault on a girl aged 11 when he appeared at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court on November 25.

The offences are believed to have taken place between July 1 and November 24 this year at the Londis newsagent in Ewell Road.

Sahye, who is Mauritian and had overstayed his visa, was denied bail. He will be sentenced at Kingston Crown Court at a later date.

Kingston Council suspended the licence of the newsagent, Akvinder Singh Mahal, for employing Sahye illegally. His licence has since been temporarily restored by Kingston Council pending a formal decision later this month.

Councillor Philip Doyle, chairman of the licensing committee, said: "A very serious crime has been committed at these premises and it has been perpetrated by someone being employed illegally. RBK takes its licensing responsibilities and the prevention of crime very seriously."



Serious crime: Londis Deadlinepix KT88916

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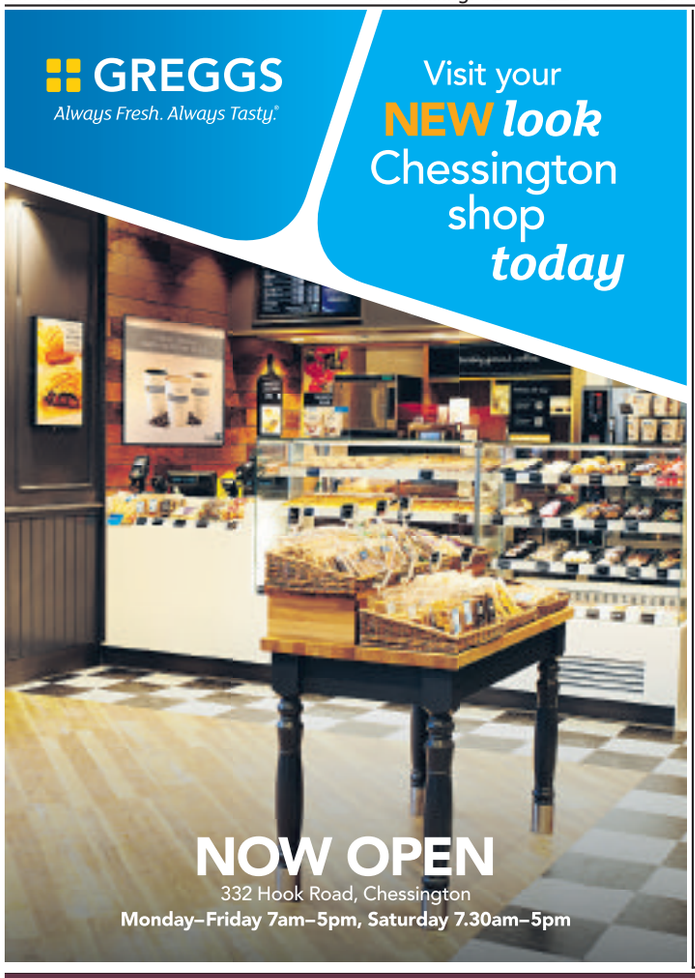
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Couple's £10k payout

REPORTER
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Kingston Council has agreed to pay £10,000 compensation and apologise to a wife and her disabled husband after a series of failings left them without a personal care allowance for two years.

A local government ombudsman report found significant delays in allocating a social worker, organising a personal care budget and failing to provide adequate housing advice caused "considerable and avoidable distress and uncertainty" to the couple, known as Mr and Mrs C.

The report, published in August, explained how Mr C suffers from multiple sclerosis, which causes loss of sight, mobility and short-term memory and applied for a personal care budget in May 2010.

Mr and Mrs C were not allocated a proper budget until November 2012.

Ombudsman Jane Martin said: "It is wholly unacceptable that Mr and Mrs C should have had to wait more than two years for the personal budget. The council received continual reminders from Mrs C of the couple's wish. It failed to act on those and that was a fault."

When Mr C's condition got considerably worse in March 2010 and he was unable to move around his home, the couple were forced to move into rented accommodation, the report said.

At the residents, health and care services committee last week, councillors accepted the ombudsman's findings and agreed to apologise to the couple and pay the recommended £10,000 compensation.

A council spokesman said: "This was a complex situation where several council services were supporting the couple at the same time in an effort to help them to lead a normal family life."

Student block comes under fire

Controversial plans to build a student accommodation block in New Malden have been denounced by councillors and residents.

This was the second time plans for the 310 units of student accommodation at 171 to 173 Kingston Road have come before the Malden and Coombe planning sub-committee after the project was previously rejected for being too close to residents of Crown House.

The new proposal sees the block, which will replace the Duke of Wellington pub, reduced in size and moved further back from other properties, but councillors and residents insisted the changes were not enough.

Samantha Banton, who lives in Crown House, said: "The bus routes in this area are already extremely congested and there is very little need for student housing.

"With close to 6,500 people currently on the social housing waiting list in Kingston, isn't it our priority to house our own borough residents who are currently living in temporary accommodation?"

Council leader Councillor Kevin Davis also criticised Kingston University for not being more involved with the project.

He said: "It is extremely frustrating that the university will not interact with any developers about their accommodation."

The plans will be discussed at the development control committee meeting on December 16.



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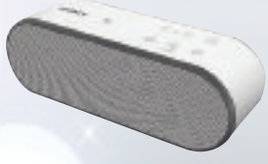
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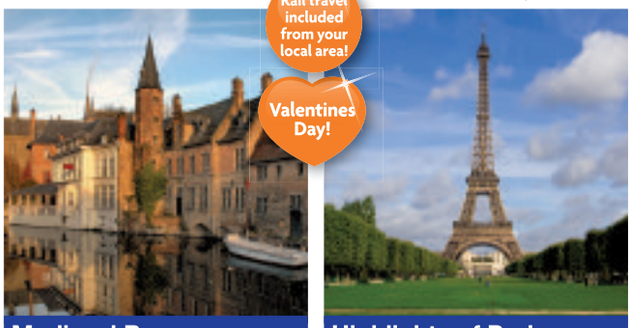
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TOLWORTH TOWER: CNM Estates applies for change of use

Developer aims high with plan for 78 flats

CHIEF REPORTER
NAZIA DEWJI
ndewji@london.newsquest.co.uk



Plans to create 78 flats at the Tolworth Tower site have been submitted to Kingston Council, in the first bid to transform the building since it was bought by a property developer.

CNM Estates, which bought the site in October, has proposed a change of use of 3,862sq m of office space over four floors inside the north wing, the seven-storey block next to the Travelodge in Ewell Road.

The application outlines plans for 48 one-bedroom flats and 30 two-bedroom flats, with a focus on "an affordable price point to assist first-time buyers".

Kingston Council leader Kevin Davis said: "Anything that contributes to making Tolworth more attractive and visited by people, it has got to be a good thing and will help regenerate the area."

Tolworth Tower went on the market in July, two years after a syndicate led by Simon Cowell's brother Nicholas dropped plans to buy it.

Estate agents Knight Frank marketed the building as a potential multi-use complex of residential, office and retail space, with extra shops and leisure facilities along Tolworth Broadway.

CNM Estates is understood to have put down a 10 per cent deposit of the £45m asking price for the building, but has so far remained tight-lipped about its long-term vision.

When CNM Estates announced its purchase, chairman Wahid Samady said: "We have bought it because I care about Tolworth. I'm going to do something stunning and brilliant for it. We are standing tall and we are developing for the borough."

A consultation document on the council website says: "The overall aim to improve the Tolworth Tower site will be undertaken with continuing work with the council, key stakeholders, residents, businesses and councillors.

"The completed development will provide an enhanced retail offer, high quality public realm space, outdoor catering and entertainment and an improved access arrangement for the existing uses."

Earlier this year, a plan for 800 homes on the opposite side of Tolworth roundabout to make way for a rival 23-block tower, was unveiled by Tesco.



Change of use: Office space over four floors inside the north wing could become flats Deadlinepix KT78643

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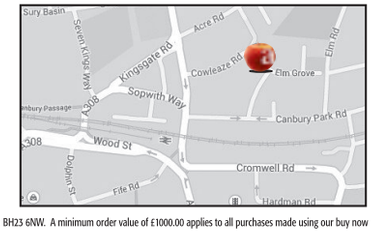


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ONLINE OPINION

Comment on stories at **kingstonguardian.co.uk**

Plans for 310 student flats

If this application is approved and Kingston Uni does not sign up to this accommodation then it will do nothing to ease the pressure on housing supply from students. Kingston will continue to grow as a dormitory commuter town. If Kingston Uni does sign up then its shuttle bus is due to be extended to Kingston Road. With no provision from the developer to turn buses on site, it is proposed that students are taken in the opposite direction from the campuses to turn at the Fountain roundabout before travelling back again. This will add to the congestion.

NMALDENRESIDENT

Shopping parade plans

Disappointing that that number of homes are considered suitable for this small town [New Malden]. Parking is already chaotic and the pressure on schools is well documented. Any reasoned evaluation of the merits of this must ensure that suitable off-street parking is a prerequisite of any such initiative and that a detailed impact assessment be made.

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Extra wheelie bin – as well as the rest

I am just reading about proposed changes to the recycling system.

If I am right, we will be given another wheelie bin to collect paper and card – it would probably take me over a month to fill it – but the rest of the recycling will stay in green boxes and will be collected fortnightly.

In terms of consultation, residents must be polled on this. Most of our food is already put into too much packaging by food manufacturers, which we then have to recycle for them.

Now, Marks & Spencer is only going to sell chickens wrapped in plastic bags ready for cooking in a foil container, for which they will be charging an extra £1 just because people are ignorant on how to cook a chicken safely. How long before all shops do the same?

This will increase the amount of unnecessary foil into our rubbish.

I have a wheelie bin for landfill and one for garden rubbish, which I happily pay for. We have a green box for paper, one green box for plastic, tins and bottles, one cardboard box and one food bin.

Is the food bin going to be collected weekly?

Now, here is an idea. I will take an extra wheelie bin if it means I can put every bit of recycling into it – except food – and it can be collected fortnightly.

Otherwise, all the excess not collected weekly like now, will end up in landfill because people will not want extra containers littering the environment.

MR AND MRS WALKER
Surbiton

Borough view



Joanna Scott took this picture of the sun rising over the River Thames in Kingston last week. To see your photo featured in Borough View, email it with details of where you took it to jon.sharman@london.newsquest.co.uk.

Waste of a recycle plan

The Conservative administration is now looking at introducing fortnightly recycling collections.

A similar system to how the general waste is collected, which the Conservatives were against when the Liberal Democrats brought in fortnightly waste collections in about 2009.

This is an easy cost-saving exercise for the council, but how is this improving the waste management service?

This is likely to be very unpopular with residents, who will have to find additional storage space. Other councils have been able to provide free garden waste collections.

It would be good to see this administration, that has been sitting in the wings for 20 years, to be coming up with smarter ways that money can be saved and on how the services can be improved. They used to point out how the Lib Dems wasted taxpayers' money and what they would do better.

DANIEL GOODGER
Via email

Oyster fare cap a sham

Boris Johnson's pledge to help flexible and part-time workers by removing the peak Oyster card fare caps, surprisingly enough, comes with a health warning.

This pledge was recently trumpeted just after a radio phone-in, yet Boris conveniently forgot to mention that this would be funded by raising the fare cap on others, from a possible £8.50 to £11.70 a day – a rise of more than 33 per cent.

This, in all but name, is a staggering fare increase and the worst kind of smoke and mirrors, all too typical of this Mayor.

While it is, of course, true that expenditure must be paid for by savings or increased charges, penalising other hard-pressed Londoners elsewhere is not the answer.

Boris might have considered scrapping his vanity project, the massively underused cable car, avoiding headline-grabbing miniscale decreases in council tax precept, or reducing the number of deputy mayors from six to the statutory one, to name but three options – though I do appreciate that becoming a full-time Mayor was never one of his priorities.

IAN DYSART
Raynes Park

IPSO Complaints Who to contact

Kingston Guardian adheres to the Editors' code of practice (which you can find at ipso.co.uk). We are regulated by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (Ipso). Complaints about stories should be referred firstly to the editor by email at: newsdesk@kingstonguardian.co.uk or by post at Kingston Guardian Complaints, Floor 10, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton SM2 5AS.

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Tax cuts would help companies pay living wage

We need to think practically about how to get more Kingston residents on the living wage.

It is an ideal win-win situation for businesses, employees and the public purse.

It puts more cash into people's pockets and improves working conditions. But forcing companies to sign up to this, especially start-ups and small businesses, such as bed and breakfasts, restaurants and coffee shops, will only hurt them and may even put them out of business.

My sums show that making the London living wage compulsory would cost London's businesses £612m every year – that is the equivalent of 32,000 jobs in the hospitality sector.

We can increase the pay for many people in Kingston though common sense tax-cutting measures.

First, we need to give business rates relief to small businesses that sign up to the living wage.

Next, we need to cut VAT in the hospitality sector.

These tax cuts will pay for themselves through reduced dependency on in-work benefits and increased tax revenues.

I will work with the Mayor of London and lobby the Government to make sure wages can be boosted for employees without the need for price hikes or sackings.

TONY ARBOUR
GLA Conservative Assembly member for Hounslow, Richmond and Kingston

TWEETS of the WEEK

@P_Ranawat92:
When I see dudes my age with posts about Pryzm and Kingston on instagram... A little part of me dies inside #IsThisLife

@TammykWilliams:
Seeing the granny on the scooter whizz around Surbiton makes my day

Tory party's immigration scaremongering

David Cameron's recent speech on European immigration is the latest in a series of desperate moves from a Conservative Party that is in full scale panic.

We have had "go home or face arrest" vans. We have had "if you are from the European Union and want to move to Britain, go and register at a police office".

We have had "if you're out of work, even for a few months, go back to where you came from. And if you are fortunate enough to be here, don't think of sending money back to your children".

In her Bruges speech in 1988, Margaret Thatcher said: "Britain does not dream of some cosy, isolated existence on the fringes of the European community. Our destiny is in Europe, as part of the community."

So what happened to that Conservative destiny? We know the answer. The dual menace of the Tory headbangers and the rise of UKIP.

There is nothing patriotic about bashing immigration from Europe. It is opportunistic, weak and fundamentally un-British.

The simple fact is this – migrants from the EU claim less in benefits than people born in this country. They are a massive net positive to the UK economy.

The Tories are scared to admit this.

ROBIN MELTZER
Liberal Democrat candidate Richmond Park

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At first, Colin sought help from the usual channels, visiting casualty, a physiotherapist and even an orthoptist who prescribed rigid (and uncomfortable) half-sole inserts.

Unfortunately, nothing worked. Then Colin decided to visit Foot Solutions in Richmond.

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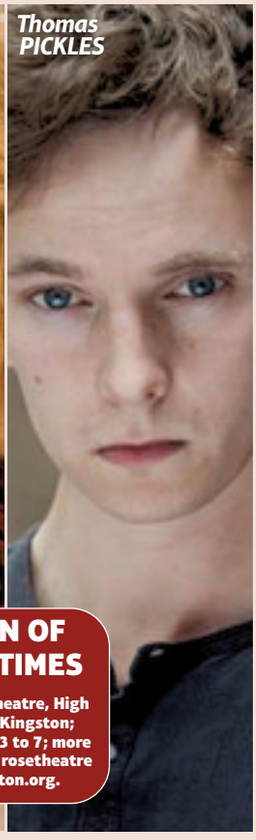
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SIGN OF THE TIMES

● **Rose Theatre, High Street, Kingston; February 3 to 7; more details at rosetheatre kingston.org.**

NORTHERN NIGHTS

Director Karen Simpson talks to RACHAEL BURFORD about Sign of the Times at the Rose Theatre in February

The Rose Theatre will see some northern charm hit the stage in the new year.

A touring production of Tim Firth's Sign of the Times is coming to Kingston for one week in February.

Firth has an impressive pedigree. He wrote the screenplay for Calendar Girls that was one of the surprising film hits of recent times grossing almost 10 times its $10,000,000 budget worldwide.

Directed by Karen Simpson the show is one of his lesser known plays but, like so much of his work, it is set in Yorkshire and based around the seemingly average lives of northern people.

Simpson has been in the business for 25 years and as director of the Bury St Edmunds Theatre Royal, one of the only surviving regency theatres in the country, she feels she knows what will work on stage and what the public will enjoy.

Like Firth, Simpson is also a native north-westerner and admits that was part of her attraction to the play.

She says: "I love Tim's writing and I was looking for a contemporary play that said something about modern society. I wanted something that had really broad appeal and that everyone could relate to."

The first half tells the story of Frank, an aging sign writer and wannabe writer, and Alan the young man on work experience with him. In the second half the roles became somewhat reversed.

Simpson said: "This just seemed perfect because the story is so relevant to today. On the one hand you have a man who is all about details and doing things the right way. Frank is old fashioned about his work and he just can't understand his young apprentice."

Rehearsals for the play with the lead actors Thomas Pickles, who is playing Alan, and Robert Gill as Frank start this week.

Simpson said: "I have never seen the play on stage, but when I was reading it I just thought it was the most engaging piece. It's exciting to get started and I really think this is something everyone will enjoy."



ART EXCHANGE

What do you know about Kingston's twin city in north Germany?

If the answer is not much, then the Northern Attitudes exhibition at Kingston Museum this December and January could be the answer, *writes Becky Pemberton*.

The free exhibition will feature 12 artists who have created works specifically for the project, which aims to provide an insight into the art scene in Oldenburg in Lower Saxony.

The artists are all members of the Bund Bildender Künstler, the professional artists' association in Germany, which has links with the Kingston Artists Open Studios (Kaos).

The exhibition follows the success of an exchange in November, where Kingston artists were hosted in Oldenburg for a private viewing of their Art in Transit exhibition.

Visitor numbers and selling figures were so high that several Kingston artists have found homes subsequently in Oldenburg.

The event in Kingston will feature a combination of painting, sculpture and installations.

The exchange is not only on a professional level, but will extend to the Kaos playing host to the artists in their own homes.

● **Northern Attitudes; Kingston Museum, Wheatfield Way, Kingston; December 12 to January 17; call 020 8547 5006, email kingston.museum@rbk.kingston.gov.uk.**

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Vibe SHORTS

MOSAIC MUSIC: Come along to a night of music and poetry while getting into the Christmas spirit. Folk, blues and Latin will all be on the cards for the Mosaic event.

● **Mosaic; All Saints Church; December 15; £5.50 for concessions and £7.70 for general admission; visit seetickets.com/tour/mosaic-at-all-saints-church.**

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: Listen in on some festive classics sung by a community choir this Christmas. Enjoy a cup of something warm as the group entertain.

● **Euphonix Choir; Swallow Bakery Cafe, Rose Theatre, 24–26 High Street, Kingston; December 17, 2.30pm; visit e-voice.org.uk/euphonix.**

SNOW FUN: Arts, crafts, puppetry, games, carols and even a snowball fight will feature in this year's Christmas Celebration at Surbiton Assembly Rooms. Come along for the afternoon of fun this weekend.

● **Christmas Celebration; Surbiton Assembly Rooms, Maple Road, Surbiton; December 14, 3.30pm; free; community-church.org.uk/one_big_christmas.**

XMAS CRAFT: Kids can get ready for Christmas with activities and cake decorating at the Rose Theatre. Sessions are available for ages five to 11. Activities include music, storytelling and poetry.

● **Christmas Mornings; Rose Theatre; December 22-23, various times; £20; for full details visit rosetheatre kingston.org.**

SING SONG: Come along for a sing-along with live music duo Baz and Dave this weekend. As part of the Get Vocal at your Local experience, the pair will be rocking out to soul and rock'n'roll classics.

● **Baz and Dave; Black Lion Surbiton, 58 Brighton Road, Surbiton; Saturday, December 13, 9pm; for more information visit bazndave.com.**

PUB MARKET: Need festive decorations, presents or craving a seasonal sugary fix? Fear not, a cosy Surbiton pub will be hosting a Christmas market. And what's more, the gear is all made in Surbiton. The Christmas market will sell vintage ornaments, quaint crafts, handmade gifts and delicious food among other goodies. Visitors can sip on some mulled wine or get a beer from the bar as they stroll.

● **Made in Surbiton; the Lamb, 73 Brighton Road, Surbiton; Sunday, December 14, 3pm to 7pm; call 020 8920 7734.**

FOR MORE ON THESE AND OTHER STORIES VISIT kingstonguardian.co.uk/vibe

Vibe

MONEY MONEY MONEY!

If you are in search of a hobby this winter, why not try good old coin collecting?

Each coin is a miniature work of art, and they are gateways into a fascinating world of history, politics and culture, *writes Hardeep Matharu*.

You may never have thought about it, but the old coins to be found down the back of your sofa or at the bottom of your purse may actually be worth a small fortune.

People can be bitten by the coin bug when a particularly interesting piece is issued for a significant event. Some commemorative coins can turn out to be collectors' items.

The most expensive British coin is the Edward VIII sovereign which went for £516,000 at auction. Because the king abdicated within months of assuming the throne the coin was struck, but never went into general circulation – ensuring its extraordinary scarcity value.

At the same event, an Elizabeth II Gold Proof sovereign fetched a staggering £384,000.

But a number of coins you may have in your wallet could be worth a good deal more than the amount written on them.

Earlier this year, a commemorative 50p coin created by the Royal Mint to mark the 250th anniversary of the Royal Botanic Gardens in 2011 was worth more than 200 times its face value just a few months later.

Prices rocketed because only 21,000 of the Kew Garden pagoda coins were ever minted.

It is the rarest commemorative coin design to be introduced into current general circulation.

Shane Bissett, director of commemorative coins at the Royal Mint, says: "While we're urging everyone to check their change to see whether they could have one of these exceptional coins in their pockets, we also want to encourage the nation to look more closely at all of the coins we use every day.

"They really are miniature works of art worth looking out for, admiring and collecting – and keeping hold of them is a great way for us to build our own private art galleries.

"Now that people know just how rare this particular coin is we expect them to disappear from circulation fast.

"The Royal Mint's 50p, £1 and £2 collector albums are the perfect way for people to start appreciating the beautiful works of art that are in our pockets and enjoying the coins that are in circulation."

Although it may start out as a minor pastime, coin collecting can become an engrossing hobby.

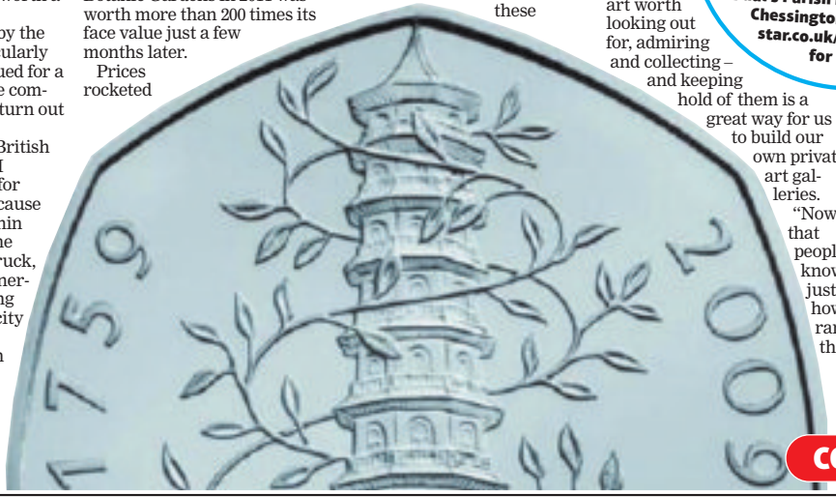
Collectors learn to carefully select their pieces based on their condition, scarcity and a wide variety of themes. Many take great pride in the way their coins are stored and displayed and learn the tricks of the trade when it comes to buying and selling their coins either via dealers, the internet, or at auctions.

Visit **coins.about.com** for more information.

CASH

IN: Share the love of the coin with fellow collectors at a monthly meeting. Kingston Numismatic Society meets every third Thursday of the month, at 7.30pm. In January there is no formal meeting, but an informal gathering is usually held at a member's home.

● **Kingston Numismatic Society; St Paul's Parish Hall, Hook Road, Chessington; Visit heraldstar.co.uk/knsinfo.htm for more.**



The commemorative coin for the Royal Botanic Gardens' 250th anniversary

COIN COLLECTING

Review

The Rose Theatre's production of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe smashed the theatre's Christmas box office record and the 25,000 people who have already bought tickets will not be disappointed, *writes Rachael Burford*.

CS Lewis' classic tale about four children who find a magical kingdom at the back of a wardrobe in an eccentric professors' house is given a musical makeover by composer Eamonn O'Dwyer.

The young leads, picked from the Rose Youth Theatre, display professionalism beyond their years and at times often outshone their veteran counterparts.

What made the production particularly impressive was the beautifully simple stage set comprising of just a huge wardrobe door during the scenes set in the professors' house.

The simplicity of the opening scene's set makes the moment Lucy first enters the wardrobe and Narnia is revealed completely breathtaking.

● **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe; Rose Theatre, High Street, Kingston; until January 4; from £10; call the box office on 020 8174 0090.**

Vibe WHAT'S ON

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Women seeking men

SHARE DREAMS Bubbly, 36 year old Oxted female, fair hair, blue eyes, slim build, would like to meet a male partner for a long-term relationship and maybe more in the future. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 183316 or send a text to 80360**

FACE THE WORLD Trendy, fun, loyal African-London female, 39, 5'4'', own home and car, searching for a sincere, loving, kind man, for friendship first, then maybe more in the future. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 180752 or send a text to 80360**

WHEN TWO BECOME ONE Affectionate, loving and outgoing Esher woman, 39, 5'6'', single mum, professional, likes to enjoy life, looking for an efficient, sociable male, to share and enjoy the future together. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 127814 or send a text to 80360**

PERFECT INGREDIENTS Secure, supportive and outgoing Farnborough woman, 39, 5'9'', divorced, would like to find an organised, endearing guy, for friendship and maybe more in the future. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 156001**

HIDDEN DEPTHS Loyal, faithful, outgoing black lady, 39, living in London, seeking a white man, who is honest, faithful and caring, for a loving relationship and to eventually settle down with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 113149**

I NEED A HERO Slim, green-eyed Surrey female, 41, size 8, self-employed, enjoys the gym, nights out and much more, searching for a warm and genuine man, for a loving, lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 180765 or send a text to 80360**

LITTLE TREASURE Caring and feminine Surrey-based African lady, 42, 5'2'', enjoys the simple things in life, simply searching for a loving white male, to share love, life and laughter. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 180743 or send a text to 80360**

TODAY IS THE DAY Slim, attractive and elegant Asian lady, 45, enjoys travel, socialising, keep fit and the quiet life, seeking a similar, sincere man, for friendship, love and lots of happy times. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 138920**

QUITE A CATCH Professional, quiet, charming Croydon woman, 45, 5'2'', blonde, enjoys cosy nights in, would like to meet a kind, lovable gent, to care for each other and share a happy future. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 148591**

THE GREAT ESCAPE Fun, youthful South London Caribbean lady, 45, 5'7'', GSOH, likes the arts, cinema, dining out and more, now looking for a tall, friendly and caring man, to share a happy life with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 138474**

SERIOUS ABOUT A RELATIONSHIP? Sincere, thoughtful, 45 year old Aylesbury female, professional, 5'8'', curvy build, well-educated, would like to meet a mature male, 45-52, who is a non-smoker, for a long-term relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 174687 or send a text to 80360**

YOU'VE GOT THAT SOMETHING Outgoing, fun-loving, positive, 48 year old London female, love walks, exercise, cooking, reading, the outdoors and travel. Would like to meet a nice gentleman to share my life with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 183300 or send a text to 80360**

A BIG HEART Down-to-earth, 49 year old black Wandsworth female, cuddly, enjoy nights in, restaurants and family life. Would like to meet a genuine guy for friendship and future happiness. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 180406 or send a text to 80360**

THAT CERTAIN SOMETHING Attractive, slim, thoughtful, green-eyed Surrey woman, 50, 5'8'', interested in travel, current affairs and more,would like to find an independent, caring male, for friendship and more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 142253**

SEEKING MY MATCH Genuine 50 year old Wallington lady, slim, happy, honest, reliable and kind, hobbies include flying, swimming, sewing, running and socialising, seeking a kind, similar male, to share life with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 174508**

FOLLOW THE DREAM Youthful, petite Surrey female, 51, N/S, GSOH, blonde, enjoys sport, days out, cinema and more, searching for a fit, genuine and easygoing man, for fun, friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 132871**

LIFE IS TO SHARE Kind, loving Tadworth lady, 52, 5'4'', slim, enjoys music, reading, walks and all that life has to offer, looking for a genuine and honest guy, with GSOH, for love, fun and happiness. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 142340 or send a text to 80360**

ARE YOU THE GUY FOR ME? Caring, attractive, slim, 53 year old SW London lady, enjoy travel, nights out or in and cinema. Would like to meet an honest, genuine guy, 49-58, over 5'7'' for friendship and future happiness. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 171850 or send a text to 80360**

SUCH LASTING LOVE Bubbly, caring Mitcham female, 53 Italian, brunette, non smoker, enjoys dancing, theatre, badminton, holidays and dining, seeking an honest, professional man, for a lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 167639**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Honest, caring Caribbean female, 57, 5'5'', medium build, enjoys travel, cinema, days out and more, would like to meet a sincere, romantic and trustworthy man, for lasting love. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 153471**

TAKE IT EASY Sweet, genuine, bright and humorous blonde, 58, from Epsom, wants to meet similar aged man who also likes arts, theatre, cinema, Radio 4, and a good chat over a glass of wine or nice cup of tea. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 172231 or send a text to 80360**

LIFE STARTS NOW Genuine, lovable and creative Bexleyheath girl, 58, looking to find a reflective, imaginative and considerate bloke, for a special and lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 107320 or send a text to 80360**

SIMILAR INTERESTS? Kind, caring, loyal and faithful, 59 year old Surbiton female, 5'4'', fair hair, non-smoker, good sense of humour, like holidays, sightseeing, day trips and theatre. Seeks a kind, caring, male. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 181082**

THE COMMITTED KIND Kind-hearted, polite and reliable Twickenham woman, 60, 5'4'', enjoy art, music, theatre, ballet, opera and places of interest. Seeks a considerate, genuine man, for good times and great company. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 174386 or send a text to 80360**

LET'S FALL IN LOVE Attractive, professional and solvent lady, 62, 5'7'', likes the arts, antiques, theatre, cinema, music and dining, searching for a similar, genuine man, to share great company. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 119593**

HOPING FOR THE BEST Mixed race Harrow female, 62, looking for an Asian man, for friendship and more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 155644 or send a text to 80360**

LIFE'S SIMPLE PLEASURES Pretty, slim, genuine Surrey girl, 62, 5'8'', auburn hair, youthful, loves classical music, theatre, France and much more, looking for a tall, non-smoking gent, for lasting love. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 468587 or send a text to 80360**

LOTS OF LAUGHTER Informed, outgoing and methodical Tadworth female, 63, 5'8'', grey hair, non-smoker, would like to meet a lively, thoughtful male, for a special and lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 183065 or send a text to 80360**

SHINE LIKE A STAR Caring, honest London lady, 64, widowed, enjoys reading, cooking, days out and home comforts, looking for a decent, non-smoking man, for company, friendship and future romance. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 152636**

COME DANCE WITH ME Active, blonde Surrey girl, 64, blonde, non smoker, loves stepping out, would like to meet a fun, honest, caring guy, to share interests, romance and to dance into the sunset with me. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 140757 or send a text to 80360**

STRAIGHT TALKING Active, outgoing Epsom woman, 64, 5'2'', blonde, blue eyes, likes dancing, gardening, socialising and adventure, searching for a fit, funny and genuine man, for company and good times. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 122940**

LIFE'S WHAT WE MAKE IT Easy-going, 64 year old Caribbean female, Morden, like reading, writing, cooking and going out. Would like to meet a friendly, non-smoking gentleman for company and a relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 182128 or send a text to 80360**

SOULMATE SEARCHING Kind and friendly, 65 year old Wallington female, like music, walking, swimming, nature, animals and reading. Would like to meet a friend first and maybe more if it goes well. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 182739 or send a text to 80360**

QUALITY COUNTS Slim, modern Carshalton female, 65, 5'2'', GSOH, likes music, inc some classic, countryside and more, would like to meet a sincere, non-smoking man, for company and quality times together. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 182967 or send a text to 80360**

SIDE BY SIDE Down-to-earth, generous and outgoing Jamaican London girl, 65, medium build, enjoys dancing, cinema, days out and quiet times, just looking to meet a charming man, for friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 177687 or send a text to 80360**

DESERVING OF LOVE Retired and romantic South London woman, 65, 5'6'', looking for a nice, non-smoking gent, medium build, who enjoys days out, dining, laughter and socialising. Are you the one for me? **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 143424**

THAT'S AMORE Kind, genuine Richmond lady, 65, likes days out to the coast, dining out, gardening, the cinema and generally socialising, N/S, looking for a similar man, for companionship and love. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 158495 or send a text to 80360**

LET THE SUN SHINE IN Curvy, cuddly Kingston lady, 65, GSOH, likes cinema, meals out, places of interest and the coast, would like to meet a similar man, sociable, fun and honest, for company and more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 126146 or send a text to 80360**

CAN YOU COMPARE? Honest and caring Kingston Upon Thames lady, 65, enjoys trips to the cinema, theatre and places of interest, would like to meet a nice, genuine man, to share friendship and enjoy life. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 151366 or send a text to 80360**

HOOK, LINE AND SINKER Energetic, thoughtful and reliable Croydon lady, 67, 5'2'', curvy, brunette, with many interests, now searching for a stylish and focused man, for fun, friendship and happy times. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 136270**

YOU MIGHT BE LUCKY Outgoing, brown-eyed Surbiton lady, 67, long dark hair, likes cooking, eating out, dancing and holidays abroad, seeking a nice gent, for companionship and lots more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 461376**

MALE ME SMILE Kind, thoughtful, 67 year old Epsom female, enjoy coastal and country walks, eating out, holidays and weekends away. Seeks a male for friendship and companionship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 170687**

COMPANY AND MORE Out-going, kind, caring, 68 year old New Malden female, 5'7'', fair hair, brown eyes, likes music, dancing, keep-fit and swimming. Would like to meet a sociable, genuine male for companionship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 170711**

THE SIMPLE PLEASURES Friendly, sincere and dedicated London female, widow, 68. Enjoys socialising, music, travelling. WLTM a genuine man, N/S, who is fair & loyal, to share peaceful, loving & harmonious relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 159455**

FLY ME TO THE MOON Curvy, bubbly and thoughtful Kingston Upon Thames woman, 69, with many active interests, now looking for sincere gentleman, who is honest and kind, for friendship and maybe a lasting romance. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 453732**

EMBRACE LIFE Artistic, 78 year old Twickenham female, red hair, hazel eyes, slim, retired, love country, theatre and gardening. Would like to meet a sensitive and educated gentleman, 75-78 to embrace life more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 178463**

Men seeking women

PROVIDE THAT SPARK Intelligent, funny and attractive Guildford man, 37, great conversationalist, plays golf, searching for an equally kind and caring princess, to share interests, friendship and true love. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 119408 or send a text to 80360**

PURE KINDNESS Warm and friendly Surrey male, 37, loves conversation, cooking, designing and the company of others, now seeking a natural and loving woman, with warmth and happiness to give. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 850776**

FUN AND LAUGHS Easygoing, loving Sutton male, 39, 5'10'', athletic build, would like to meet a mature lady, age 40+, for fun times and to share all of life's adventures together. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 103552**

THE BEST OF LIFE Outgoing, charming and tactile Kingston Upon Thames male, 41, 5'6'', seeking a hard-working, focused female, to share and enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 172951 or send a text to 80360**

SPICE OF LIFE Gentle, patient and open Epsom male, 41, 6ft, divorced, enjoys squash, socialising and the gym, seeking an energetic, observant female, for love and an honest future together. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 174084**

FUN TIMES TOGETHER Caring, loving, honest, 43 year old Twickenham male, 6ft, fun-loving. Would like to meet a like-minded lady for fun times, friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 179677 or send a text to 80360**

HOPING TO HEAR FROM YOU Attractive, approachable, fashionable, 46 year old Balham male, 5'7'', non-smoking, would like to meet a non-smoking female to get to know. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 181214 or send a text to 80360**

MAKE EACH MOMENT SPECIAL Affectionate Isleworth male, 47, 6'2'', athletic, non-smoker, own home, enjoys swimming, walks, pubs, restaurants and travel, seeks chatty, slim female, for a lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 103086**

LIFE IS FOR SHARING Kind, caring, 47 year old London male, like to go out and stay in. Would like to meet a lady to share time with and a happy future. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 181430 or send a text to 80360**

ROMANTIC TIMES Slim, active, honest Richmond male, 48, brown hair, enjoys running, meals out, fishing, walks in the park and social drinks, would like to meet a reliable, caring woman, for romance and happy times. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 159617**

THE WORLD AT OUR FEET Fit and genuine Croydon male, 49, 5'10'', good sense of humour, enjoys dining, theatre, cooking, keep fit and the outdoors, seeking a lovable woman, for life, love and laughter. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 125749**

IN THE NAME OF LOVE Decent, attractive, solvent Purley male, 50, 5'11'', medium build, likes all the normal things, simply searching for a straight-forward, attractive, curvy female, for love and good times. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 127258**

KEEP ME COMPANY Romantic, blue-eyed Godalming male, 51, 5'7'', loving and cuddly, GSOH, enjoys walks, cooking, soaps, music, cinema and places of interest, seeking a nice, affectionate lady, for lasting love. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 112757**

SHOW YOUR COLOURS Professional, solvent, athletic Surrey chap, 52, blond, divorced, no ties, good sense of humour, varied interests, looking for a sincere female, for love, romance and plenty of happiness. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 104782**

THE BEST MEDICINE Handsome, unconventional Surrey guy, 53, 6ft, athletic, professional, searching for a nice and honest lady, for fun, friendship and lots more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 173479 or send a text to 80360**

THE START OF SOMETHING NEW? Down-to-earth, easy-going, 54 year old Croydon male, like meals out, wine bars and holidays. Would like to meet a similar female for a one to one relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 183471 or send a text to 80360**

THE ONE TO WATCH Positive, thoughtful and kind-hearted Tooting male, 56, 5'8'', independent and genuine, would like to meet a warm, steady female, to build a loving and lasting relationship with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 141003 or send a text to 80360**

FRIENDSHIP AND ROMANCE Easy-going, friendly 59 year old Epsom male, 5'10'', non smoking, young looking, good sense of humour, enjoy country walks, music and socialising, seeks a tender female, for company, maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 173858 or send a text to 80360**

WARM ROMANTIC Friendly, charming, 59 year old Surrey male, medium build, 6'3''. I would like to meet a larger lady, with a warm heart & looking for similar things, romance, a laugh & sharing quality time together. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 164000**

SINCERE CHAP Chivalrous, sincere, 59 year old Horsham male, 6ft, slim, good sense of humour, enjoy countryside, seaside, places of interest, theatre and cinema. Seeks a feminine lady for company and more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 176805 or send a text to 80360**

A FRESH START Sweet, South London male, 59, 5'10'', enjoys most things in life, music, drives to the coast, countryside and weekends away. Searching for an honest woman, for close times and romance. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 453620 or send a text to 80360**

LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER Easygoing, upfront Warlingham gent, 60, own house and car, would like to meet a friendly female, any race, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 153954**

MUST HAVE HAPPINESS Widowed, professional Richmond male, 60, likes the theatre, cinema, pubs and restaurants, looking for an attractive, bubbly and caring female, for a long term relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 106284**

IT COULD BE FOREVER Single chap, 61, 5'11'', medium build, from Redhill, likes the simple things in life, looking for an easygoing and loving female, for companionship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 109068 or send a text to 80360**

SOLID AS A ROCK Charming Irish male, 62, living in Croydon, enjoys rugby, golf, tennis and more, searching for a nice, sociable lady, 40-60, to share the best things in life. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 111401 or send a text to 80360**

BEST THINGS IN LIFE Divorced Caterham guy, 65, N/S, 5'11'', easygoing and considerate, enjoys cooking, theatre, sport, dining and travel, seeking a bubbly, positive and caring lady, for laughs & enjoying life. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 112226**

A GREAT COMPANION Reliable, loving, considerate and understanding, 65 year old male, divorced, no ties, romantic and affectionate, would like to meet a nice female for company and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 182740 or send a text to 80360**

PENCIL ME IN Slim, semi-retired Sutton gent, 65, charity worker, own home and car, solvent, likes reading, art, places of interest and writing, seeks a friendly, caring lady, for lasting love. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 152309**

LOVE IS OUT THERE Presentable, young-at-heart, solvent Walton male, 66, 6ft, slim build, N/S, retired, GSOH, seeking a feminine, modern lady, for friendship and hopefully a loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 159931**

PICK-ME-UP Happy and solvent Surrey male, 66, own home and car, divorced, enjoys 60s music, bowling and cooking, seeking a vibrant, sincere lady, to share a happy life together. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 101747**

BY MOONLIGHT Happy, solvent Morden male, 66, divorced, own home and car, into music, sport, bowls and cooking, seeking a loving and honest lady, to share fun, friendship and a happy life with. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 119162 or send a text to 80360**

MAYBE LOVE? Honest, caring, 68 year old Esher male, slim, 5'7'', good sense of humour, enjoy walking, countryside and visiting places of interest. Would like to meet a sincere lady, 58+, to share life. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 182881 or send a text to 80360**

FOR THE TAKING Smart, warm and attractive Sutton Widower, 70, varied interests, seeking a nice, honest lady, for friendship, company and perhaps more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 103713**

TAKE LIFE AS IT COMES Down-to-earth, dependable and helpful Thames Ditton guy, 73, calm natured, many interests, just looking to meet an organised, good-natured female, for fun and maybe a little romance. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 172446**

THE START OF SOMETHING Healthy, fit, youthful and solvent Wallington male, 74, own home, enjoys life to the full, likes holidays, dining and more, searching for a sincere, lady, for an honest and trusting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 177400 or send a text to 80360**

TEA FOR TWO Genuine, caring, easy-going, 76 year old Carshalton gent, slim build, 5'7'', own car, enjoy going out for meals, days out, cosy nights in, television and music. Seeks a lady, 65-75, for company. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 179253 or send a text to 80360**

DREAMS COME TRUE Kind-hearted, down-to-earth Thornton Heath male, 83, would like to meet a nice, non-smoking lady, to share company, friendship and to enjoy outings with. Are you the one? **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 180198 or send a text to 80360**

Women seeking women

A BETTER WAY Straight female, 35, outgoing, would like to meet straight females in the Croydon area, 35-40, for company and socialising. Enjoys clubs, theatre, shopping and dining out. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 180431 or send a text to 80360**

LOOKING FOR ANOTHER Kind, sensitive, adventurous, creative Walton-on-Thames girl, 40, looking to meet a woman, 29-55 who likes music, art, cinema, going to concerts, animals, travel, looking for long term relationship. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 161212**

GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN Attractive lady, young 44, 5ft2, dark hair/green eyes, slim, likes music, clubs, a petite female for friendship and more. Carshalton **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 460239 or send a text to 80360**

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COMPLETE THE CIRCLE Fit, fun and genuine Leatherhead male, 52, 6ft, divorced, polite and sincere, would like to meet a like-minded male, intelligent and active, for fun, friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 132398**

FUN TIMES Down-to-earth, friendly, 62 year old Croydon male, 5'8'', non-smoker, would like to meet a male, aged 50-80 for fun, friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 171207 or send a text to 80360**

RING YOUR BELL? Active, fit Mitcham guy, 62, 5'9'', loves books and films, seeks a young, fit guy, with cropped hair, for friendship, fun and who knows. **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 848872**

SWEEP ME OFF MY FEET Smart, considerate and funny Epsom male, 64, now searching for an outgoing, interesting and smart-thinking guy, for good times and romance. Could you be the right man for me? **Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 152831 or send a text to 80360**

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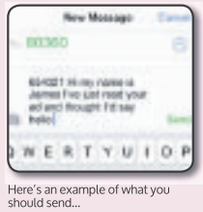
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PROPERTY

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Buyers cash in from tax reform

The Chancellor's Autumn Statement reform of the 300 year old Stamp Duty on home purchases has been give a mixed reception by local property experts.

Home buyers in the sub million pound market – which accounts for "98per cent" of properties – were celebrating saving thousands on pounds on their transactions in the new "sliding scale" system.

But many experts say wealthier home buyers in the south east have been 'penalised' by the chancellor's reforms, with what is virtually a 'mansion tax' on those in the market for homes over a million pounds.

"The biggest losers in this budget are the hard working, aspirational property owners in the Home counties," said James Wyatt of Barton Wyatt, Virginia Water and chairman of National of Estate Agents (NAEA) in Surrey.

"The already fragile property market will undoubtedly take a further hit."

RICS Head of Policy Jeremy Blackburn welcomed the "long overdue" reform.

"These changes reduce distortion and ensure those at the top end of the market contribute fairly while those at the bottom will be given a fairer chance to get on the ladder, cutting out dead zones in the market," he commented.

However house builders Fairview, who have developments across Surrey, say the reform is welcome news for 98per cent of buyers and a "financial lifeline" for first time buyers in particular.

"This is an added stimulus to the market which will benefit both first time buyers and purchasers moving up the ladder," commented Fairview Sales and Marketing director Jim Holliday.

"Anyone purchasing a property priced at £300,000 would previously have paid £9,000 in Stamp Duty. This has now dropped to £5,000."

Leaders Chief Operating Officer Claire Tobin also welcomed the reform of a system that was "outdated and completely inappropriate" for today's market.



But she added: "The only disappointment is that the Chancellor did not choose to raise the bottom £125,000 band , at least in line with inflation."

The changes mean duty rates apply only to that part of the property price that falls within each band. For example, buyers pay 0 per cent paid for the first £125,000; then two per cent on the portion up to £250,000; five per cent up to £925,000, then 10 per cent up to £1.5m; and 12per cent on anything above that.

The average saving is £4,500 on an average priced home.



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It is widely believed that the property market simply goes into hibernation over the festive season. But according to leading local estate agents Cubitt & West, nothing could be further from the truth.

"Many people assume that around this time of year, the property market basically goes to sleep until the middle of January – but they couldn't be more wrong," says Chris Nathan, Cubitts' Senior Operations Director.

Cubitts have taken steps to ensure that their clients can take full advantage of that huge spike in buyer interest, the moment it happens.

Chris said: "Instruct us to sell your home before December 13 and we will put everything in place, including an Energy Performance Certificate and our professional-quality photographs, to ensure that your home is perfectly placed to attract the maximum amount of online interest, immediately the rush starts of Boxing Day."

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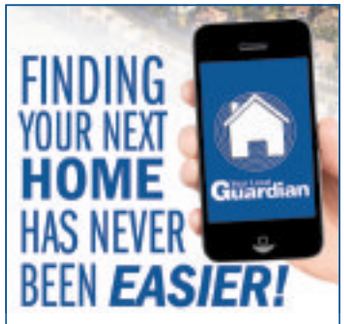
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Obituary Notice



MURIEL EILEEN BAKER
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Passed away peacefully on Sunday 30th November. She will be greatly missed by her four children, Hazel, Robert, Elizabeth and Richard and their families. Funeral service to be held on Friday, December 12th at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead at 4.15pm. After the service, a family celebration for people who knew her will take place in New Malden. For further information contact Robert at rkbaker@btinternet.com

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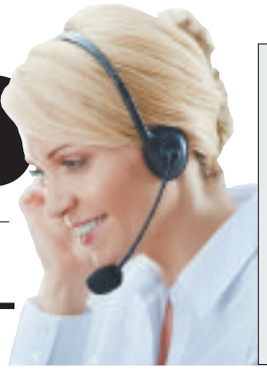
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WIMBLEDON AND PUTNEY COMMONS ELECTION OF CONSERVATORS

Notice is hereby given that the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators have appointed

WEDNESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2015

to be the day for the next Election of Conservators.

The Election will take the form of a postal ballot. Ballot papers will be forwarded to each elector in the week commencing

MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2015

Completed ballot papers should be returned to the scrutineer to arrive by

5pm WEDNESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2015

A list of electors will be available at Manor Cottage for inspection by the public from Wednesday 17th December 2014. Any claims for adjustment to the list must be made in writing to the Chief Executive at the address printed below not later than **Wednesday 7th January 2015**

Prospective candidates, who must be qualified as electors, may obtain nomination forms and further information from the Deputy Clerk and Ranger at Manor Cottage, Wimbledon Common, SW19 5NR (Tel: 020 8788 7655) or from **paula@wpcc.org.uk.**

A meeting for prospective candidates will take place on Wednesday 10th December 2014 at 7.00pm at St Mary's Church, Putney, SW15 1SN.

Please come along and meet the Returning Officer, the Chief Executive and some of his staff who will be present to explain the formalities of the election and duties of a Conservator. Please notify the Ranger's Office above if you wish to attend.

Completed nomination forms must be returned no later than **Wednesday 7 January 2015 to the Deputy Clerk and Ranger at the above address.**

Name of deceased: DOROTHY JOAN WARE Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the estate of the aforementioned deceased late of 1 Provincial House Denmark Road Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT 2RY who died on the 1st August 2014 are required to send particular there of in writing to the undersigned solicitors on or before two months from the date of this publication after which date the estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests on which they have had notice.
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News

Poor petrol deal

Motorists are still getting a poor deal at petrol pumps despite a big dip in the price of fuel in the last month, says the AA.

Forecourts have taken the blame for being slow to pass big falls in world oil prices on to motorists.

But the AA said higher VAT, fluctuating exchange rates and increased margins over the last four years for retailers and suppliers and for refiners and market traders have all combined to keep pump prices comparatively high.

It says the cost of petrol at the pumps is still a lot higher now than the average of 118.83p a litre in this week in November 2010.

London has the most expensive petrol, averaging 123.2p a litre.



FIRST DRIVE: Skoda Fabia

Brand new inside and out

This third-generation Fabia is as good as brand-new from top to bottom. The exterior is all-new, there's a stack of Euro 6 compliant engines to choose from and revised suspension front and rear. It's a fraction longer and significantly wider than the outgoing car but also lighter by an average of around 65kg.

On the inside the Fabia gets a fresh interior, with a more upmarket dashboard and improved equipment. This generation of Fabia also abandons the option of built-in sat-nav and goes for the modern alternative of smartphone 'mirroring' to give a variety of facilities via apps.

LOOKS AND IMAGE: Although it's a shade larger overall than before it still fits comfortably into the supermini category. Where the outgoing car could be described as cute and cuddly the new Fabia is a little more grown-up in appearance rather than size. It feels classy and grown-up for a car in this class.

SPACE AND PRACTICALITY:



Modern supermini buyers demand ever more from their cars so being small on the outside is no excuse for a lack of space on the inside. Up front the Fabia is impressively comfortable with plenty of head and legroom for driver and passenger; elbow room is improved too. In the rear it's a bit tighter but there's still room for adults to fit in. Boot space is 330 litres.

BEHIND THE WHEEL: There's a pleasingly-chunky steering wheel to grasp (leather-covered on SE models and above) and the dashboard looks and feels of a higher quality. The engine range includes four petrol and two diesel options, with the most popular expected to be the 74bhp 1.0-litre. Even with two adults and luggage on board it proves to be a keen and relatively refined unit, with sufficient power for most situations. It's also capable of an impressive 58.8mpg combined and just 108g/km of CO2.

WHO WOULD BUY ONE?: The Fabia is a genuine car for everyone, provided there's enough room inside for your needs. With the entry-level model starting at £10,600 it's a viable car for first-timers.

MotorMouth

email motors@london.newsquest.co.uk

New Mazda for spring 2015



The all-new crossover SUV, revealed at the Los Angeles Motor Show, is the fifth model in Mazda's line-up to feature SKYACTIV technology along with the company's KODO – Soul of Motion design.

Set for launch in the spring, European models will have a choice of three engines – the petrol SKYACTIV-G 2.0-litre in two power versions and the new SKYACTIV-D 1.5-litre clean diesel.

Six-speed SKYACTIV-Drive automatic and SKYACTIV-MT manual transmissions will be offered either in front-wheel drive format or with Mazda's new-generation all-wheel drive system. The car, which sits below the CX-5 in Mazda's pecking order, will also feature the company's latest i-ACTIVSENSE active safety system.

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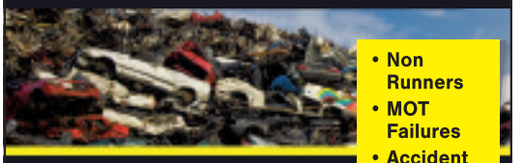
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Law heads to Bulgaria for European test



Kingston & Polytechnic Harriers middle distance star Phoebe Law is set to make her international debut on Sunday.

The 17-year-old, *right*, heads to Bulgaria as part of the Team GB squad taking part in the European Cross Country Championships in Samokov.

Law, Surrey's U20 3,000m champion, lines up in the women's U20 race, having clocked 14 minutes 56 seconds to finish second at last month's trials.

More sport: kingstonguardian.co.uk



Wise head: Corinthian Casuals' Dan Bedford will not neglect his studies as he recovers from a broken leg Stuart Tree

Dan will use time off wisely

Corinthian Casuals defender Dan Bedford might be ruled out of football for the foreseeable future, but he will make good use of his time, *writes Stuart Amos*.

The 18-year-old centre back suffered a broken leg in last month's 3-0 Ryman Division One South defeat to Worthing and has been ruled out until well into the new year.

The Glyn School student, drafted in from Casuals boss Matt Howard's Woking U18 academy side to cover for suspended skipper Joe Hicks, is due to sit A-levels in geography, PE and design technology next year.

But he will not let a broken leg knock him off his stride.

"It is not going to be easy, but I can do a lot of my school work at home," said Bedford, who is currently off school.

"The operation went well and I get the plaster off in six weeks. It should be straight forward from there and hopefully I can get stronger.

"I don't know what happened. I was just blocking the ball.

"The pressure on my ankle, when it dislocated, broke the tibia as well.

"I did not really feel anything at the time. It just feels like heavy bruising. The pain only came after the operation."

Goals from Andrew Mensah and Dylan Cascoe condemned Casuals, to a third game without a win as they crashed 2-0 at Walton & Hersham on Saturday.

Howard's men are seven points adrift of the top five and have won only two of their past 12 league games.

They are next in league action at East Grinstead Town on December 20.

DETERMINED: Casey says Ks are not out of promotion chase

We'll turn jeers to cheers

SPORTS EDITOR
STUART AMOS
samos@london.newsquest.co.uk



If Kingstonian players could boo themselves they would says Josh Casey, but instead they are determined to turn the jeers to cheers sooner rather than later.

Tommy Williams' tricky spell as boss continued as his side let a 2-1 lead – given to them by two goals from Pelayo Pic Gomez – slip in the last five minutes to draw 2-2 with Leatherhead at home on Saturday.

Fans have been getting restless at Kingsmeadow in the wake of a run of form that has seen them collect just eight points from their past 10 games.

But Casey, *below*, is confident the squad has the quality to turn the form book on its head to reach the play-offs.

And he insisted the players had history on their side.

"We are all frustrated with the run of results and performances. It has not been nice," he said.

"I can understand why the fans have booed us off at times. They pay their money and have a right to do that.

"If we were the fans we'd do exactly the same.

"If we get a couple of back-to-back wins we can be back up in the mix for the play-offs soon.

"December is a big month for us, but it is not the time to press the panic button. It is not make or break.

"We've got to stop looking back at last year, because we are a different team, with different players, a different manager and a different way of doing things.

"Any team would struggle to adjust after losing a 60-goal strike pair in Andre McCollin and Ryan Moss.

"But if you do look at last season, we went something like 15 games unbeaten, made the play-offs and came close to winning the league.

"If we can get on a similar run then it is not unrealistic to think we can get into the top five."



Going nowhere fast: Leatherhead shot stopper Louis Wells, above, is sent the wrong way from the spot by Pelayo Pico Gomez, below, to give Kingstonian a 15th minute 2-1 lead on Saturday, but Ks paid the price for failing to add to their advantage as the Tanners deservedly levelled matters in the 86th minute through Carl Rook SP82016





Casey's form has attracted the interest of Kingsmeadow landlords AFC Wimbledon and Conference Premier side Aldershot Town in recent weeks, with both clubs sending representatives to run the rule over the former Salisbury City youngster.

But the 23-year-old trainee accountant has insisted it would take a lot to tempt him out of the semi-professional ranks.

"It would have to be a good offer. I'm under contract and there have been no offers I'm aware of," said Casey.

"I'm not going to say I'd never leave because every footballer wants to play at the highest level they can.

"I'm flattered people are looking at me, but that does not interest me.

"I just want to do well for the team."

Casey was on the bench as Ks crashed out of the Surrey Senior Cup 2-1 at Combined Counties Premier Division side Badshot Lea last week.

He said: "I don't really want to talk about it. No-one will care about the Surrey Senior Cup if we make the play-offs."



Goal: Surbiton's Hollie Webb celebrates World Sport

England win at last

Surbiton captain Sarah Haycroft and club-mate Hollie Webb helped England end their Champions Trophy campaign on a high note with a fifth place finish.

England failed to win a match as they finished bottom of their pool before crashing out at the quarter final stage 3-1 to New Zealand.

They managed to rally to beat Japan 3-1 – featuring Haycroft's first outdoor international goal and a strike for Hollie Webb – on Saturday before they beat China 3-2 in a shoot-out on Sunday after drawing 1-1 in normal time.



All smiles: Surbiton's Sarah Haycroft World Sport



Royalty (from left to right): Ellie Alexopoulos, Tegan Lessey, Theo Ross, Melina Williams, Cameron Frame, Kate Boden, Finn Harman and Dylan Conway

It's pieces of eight for Bryan

New Kingston Royals head coach Damien Bryan celebrated eight medals at the London Region Winter Championships at the weekend, *writes Stuart Amos*.

Finn Harman claimed U17 50m freestyle gold and a 100m freestyle silver medal, Dylan Conway secured a pair of U17 200m individual medley and 200m butterfly bronze medals and Thomas Urry claimed multi-disability classification 200m IM silver and 100m freestyle bronze.

The club also claimed three relay medals in Stratford with Ellie Alexopoulos, Caitlin Thomson, Izzy Hyatt and Kate Boden kicking things off by winning bronze in the 4x50m medley.

Alexopoulos and Boden teamed up with Tegan Lessey and Melina Williams to take silver in the 4x50m freestyle, while Theo Ross, Cameron Frame, Finn Harman and Dylan Conway finished second in the men's 4x50m medley.

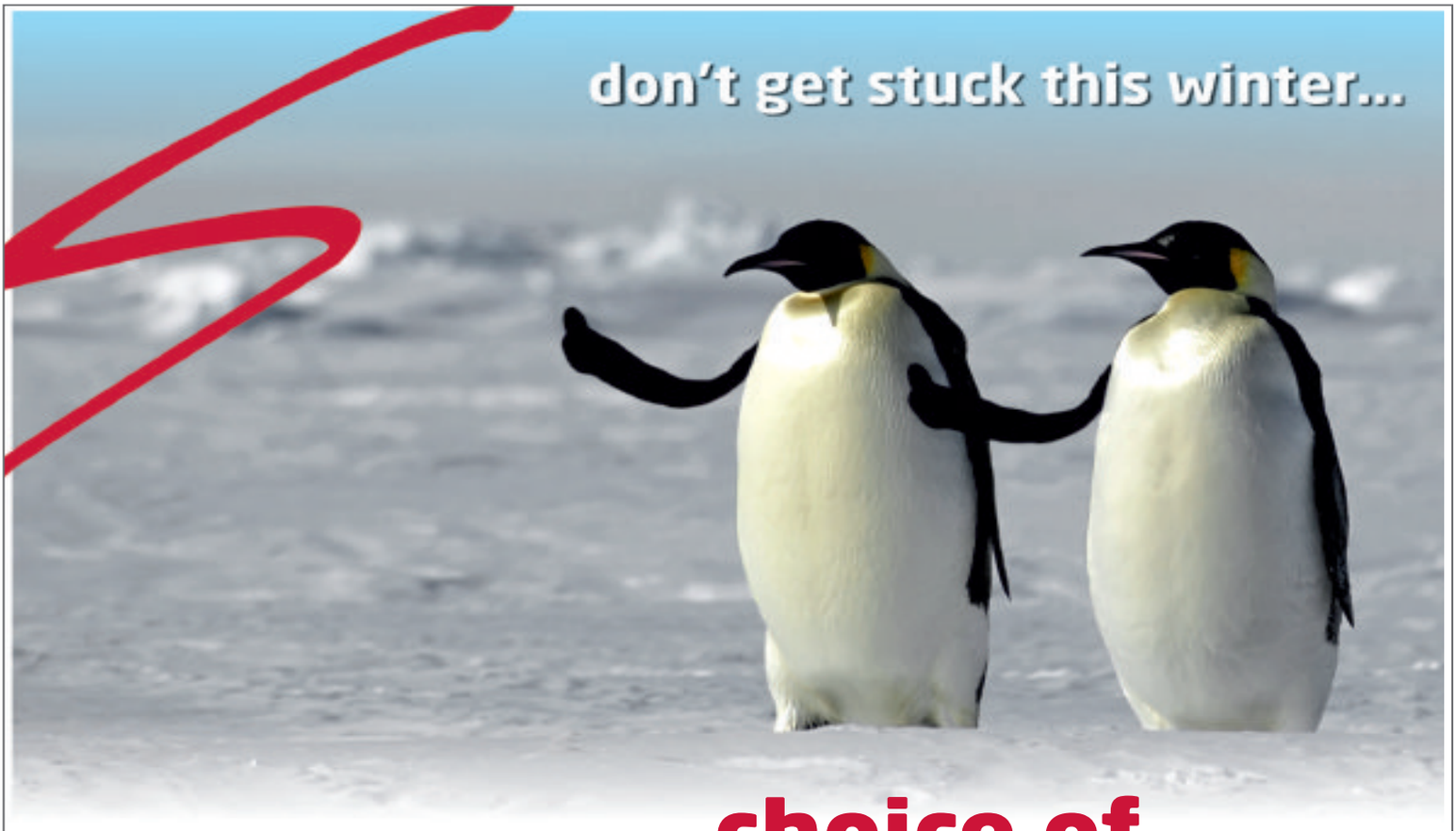
Next up is the final round of the National Arena League South in Havant on Saturday.

ALL OR BUST: KCS Old Boys face a must-win trip to London Division Two South West leaders Tottonians on Saturday if they are to stay in the promotion race. The New Malden outfit are eight points adrift of the leaders after Saturday's narrow 12-10 win over Old Alleynians and a win will put them back in touch. In Division Three South West, Old Tiffinians, 30-10 losers at Trojans at the weekend, host London Exiles.

BACK INSIDE: Surbiton return to the Indoor Hockey Fives Premier Division this week after winning Division One with maximum points last season. The action starts at St George's Park in Burton-upon-Trent on Saturday.

FAST PACE: Stragglers Running Club's Adam Villard finished four seconds outside his personal best to win the Bushy Park parkrun in 16 minutes seven seconds. Melissa Courtney was first woman home in third [16:44].


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